

REMARKS

By this Amendment the specification has been amended to improve its presentation, and claims 17, 21, 27, 30 and 31 have been amended to better define the invention and to address the examiner's objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112. Entry is in order.

The inventors attached hereto a supplemental page 11 for the application containing an abstract of the disclosure.

In the outstanding Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 17-26 and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hoglund et al. and he has rejected claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoglund et al. in view of Fukazawa. The examiner asserts that Hoglund discloses an impeller 10 for a pump 1 which includes at least one blade 20 that is curved in the interior section in a three-dimensional manner and in an outer section with a substantially two-dimensional curvature.

Hoglund et al. disclose an apparatus for fluidizing, degassing and pumping a suspension of fibrous cellulose material. The apparatus includes an impeller 10 which includes a hub 18, partition 19 and a plurality of forward blades 20. These blades are curved in a two-dimensional manner.

Thus, the examiner is simply incorrect in asserting that the blades 20 in Hoglund et al. are curved in inner portions in a three-dimensional

manner! This is a critical feature of the present invention. And nothing in Fukazawa would overcome this deficiency.

The examiner's rejections based on Hoglund et al. must be withdrawn.

The examiner has rejected claims 17-26, 28-30 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 1,277,416, and he has rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over GM 1,277,416 in view of Wickoren.

GB 1,277,416 disclose a vaned impeller 1 with vanes 22 which are "of generally arcuate shape" and divided into two portions which are radially and circumferentially staggered.

However, there is no disclosure that the vanes having inner sections which are curved in a three-dimensional fashion and outer section which are curved in a two-dimensional manner.

Nothing in Wickoren would teach such a vane configuration.

The examiner's prior art rejections based on GM 1,277,416 must be withdrawn.

Favorable reevaluation is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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